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Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2019 11:35 PM

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Subject: Re: Budget Letter FY2020 from the Environmental Policy Commission

Dear Mayor Wilson, Vice Mayor Bennett-Parker, and Members of Council:

Thanks to those of you who were able to join us at the Eco-City Summit this weekend.

Please see attached the Environmental Policy Commission's supplemental budget letter for FY2020 in response to the City Manager's Proposed Budget.

As you know, reducing greenhouse gas emissions is part of Alexandria's strategic plan. We are pleased to see the Green City theme emerge in the proposed FY2020 budget, especially as it relates to City operations.

We believe the City government has an important and appropriate role to play in facilitating greenhouse gas emissions reductions by the community. This role can begin to be filled by funding the specific items in the City Manager's Alternative Options List detailed in the attached letter.

One of those items is starting a C-PACE program, as acknowledged by Council in Phase 1 of the ongoing update of the Environmental Action Plan. C-PACE allows commercial building owners to access financing for energy efficiency projects which can be paid back on their property tax bill. If you want to learn more about what a C-PACE program looks like, you can read about Arlington's program on this web site: <https://arlington-pace.us/about/>

Thanks for your consideration and for your commitment to a sustainable Alexandria.

Praveen Kathpal
Chair
Environmental Policy Commission

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